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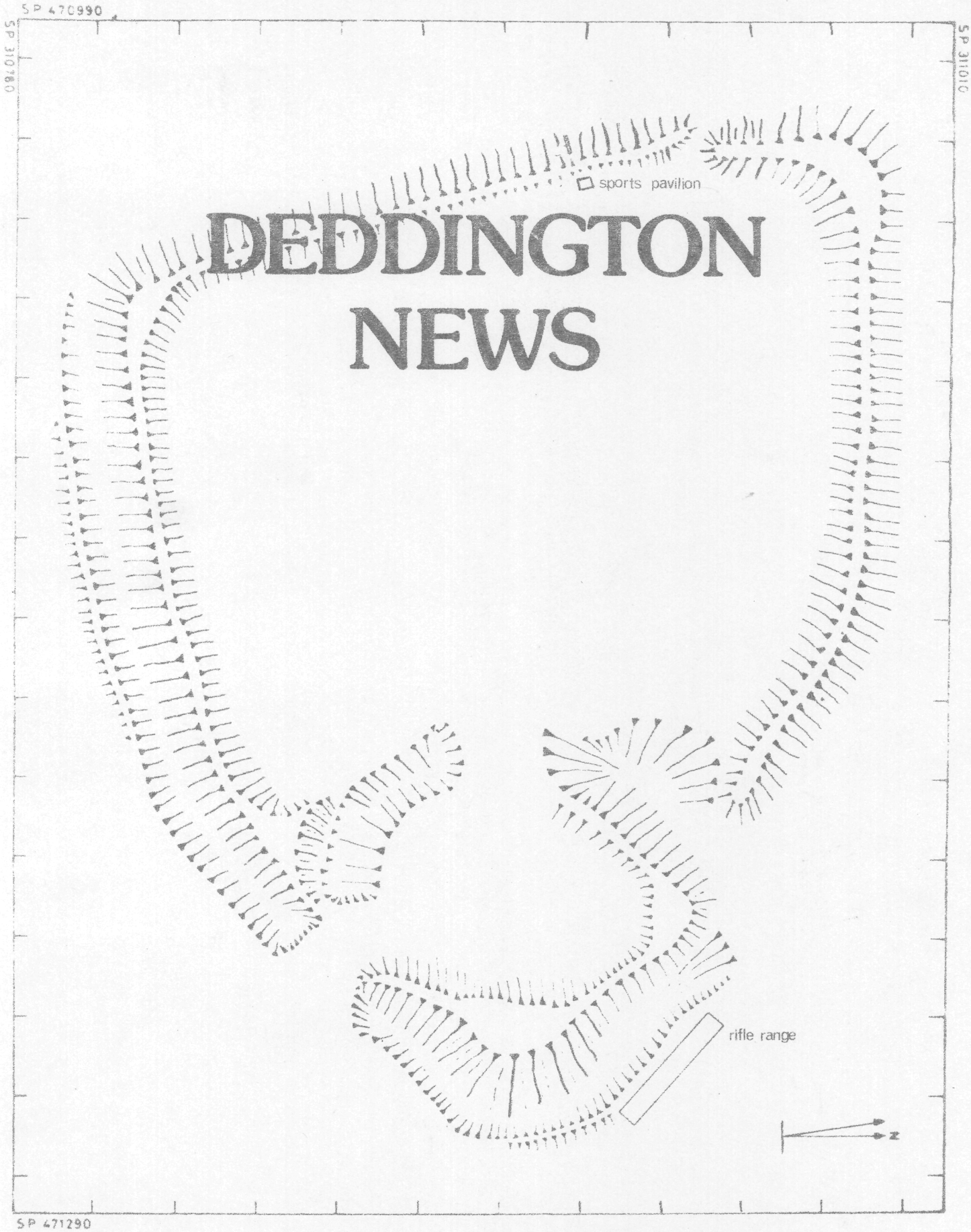
DEDDINGTON NEWS



- DEDDINGTON CASTLE.-

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DEDDINGTON NEWS: VOL 4 No. 6 March 1980

EDITOR & COPY: Jill Cheeseman (tel. 38609)
ADVERTISEMENT DESIGN: Brian Bond (tel. 38351)
TYPING: Liz Mound (tel. 38473)
DUPLICATING: Tony Dunton, Kay Broadgate, Christine Smith, Carol Nicholls
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DEDDINGTON NEWS is a community magazine produced by and for Deddington people We are always glad to receive letters and articles for inclusion in the News. Extra copies are on sale at the Post Office, price 5p.

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Our cover this month is provided, in conjunction with the article on the excavations at the Castle, by Mr. Ivens, who lives in the Banbury district, and is at Queen's University, Belfast. We are grateful to him for the trouble he has taken and look forward to hearing more from him in due course.

COPY DATE FOR APRIL ISSUE IS 28th MARCH 1980

EDITORIAL

Our postbag has been particularly interesting this month, and feelings obviously run fairly high on several scores, including improving the street lighting on the main road, the proposed community centre at the Windmill site and by no means least - dogs fouling the footpaths of Deddington. Do Hempton and Clifton residents not have the same problem, or is it that there aren't so many footpaths or that dog owners are closer to open fields? The following is one letter I have received:-

Dear Editor,

I am writing to complain of dog fouling particularly on pavements and area from Castle Street to the Primary School just where children need to walk in safety off the roads. Please could this be mentioned in this month's magazine. I personally am willing to go to court over this matter if the owners of the dogs are caught.

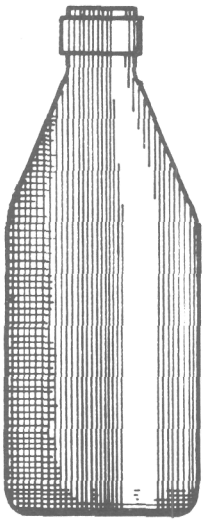
Mrs. Maureen Ward
5 Castle Terrace, Castle Street.

This is no new subject to us and must be as serious as the litter problem. Three other people have spoken to me on the subject over the last couple of weeks, and Mrs. Rosamond Scott, a dog owner herself, feels so strongly that she is willing to try and help do something about it.

The worst areas would seem to be Church Street and Tay's Gateway, but from my own experience the footpath from The Daedings to Hempton Road runs a close third. If anyone has any reasonable suggestions to make, perhaps they'd like to contact Rosamond Scott on Deddington 38561. In the meantime would dog owners make an effort to walk their dogs away from public footpaths, and if there are elderly people with dogs near you, why not offer to walk the dogs for them? I'm sure it would be appreciated and perhaps we might lessen this health hazard.

You will see on the back page of the paper an advertisement which has been placed by a group of friends of the Deddington News. These people have volunteered to organise fund-raising on behalf of the paper so that we can concentrate on putting it together Many thanks to them and any contributors.

Fairview Dairies



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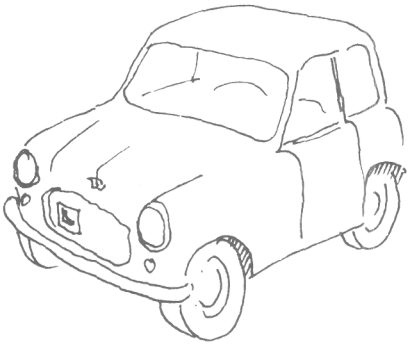

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TOYS

WHAT'S ON

March 8:	Scouts Rangers, Guides and Brownie's Jumble Sale - 2.00 p.m. Scout Hut
11:	WI AGM and Mrs. Fonge - Plants in the Home
11:	Rangers visit to Banbury Sauna
11:	Issue of Bus tokens for Senior Citizens - Town Hall 3 - 5 p.m. (Ring Mary Robinson 38272 if in difficulties with transport).
20:	Deddington Singers - The Crucifixion - 7.30 p.m. Wesleyan Reform Chapel
22:	WI coffee morning 10.30 Holly Tree Club
23:	Deddington Singers - The Crucifixion - 6.30 p.m. Barford St. Michael Church
25:	Mothers' Union - Quiet evening at Shenington
25:	PTA Craft evening - School Hall
26:	Parish Council meeting 7.0 p.m. Town Hall
29:	PTA Market Stall
April 2:	Deddington Ladies - Mrs. June Stilgoe "Nursing in Jamaica"
5:	Playgroup Market Stall - 10.0 a.m. Town Hall
14:	Playgroup Doorstep course
July 5:	PTA Barn Dance

MOTHER'S UNION AND YOUNG FAMILIES GROUP

We spent a most interesting and enjoyable evening in early February at the vicarage when Mrs. Pat Hannah gave us a talk on fostering. A large number of our members and some new folk turned out on a cold, wet night and helped to make the evening a success. Our thanks to Pat for allowing us to use her home and for giving us such a splendid talk.

During half-term we held a ploughman's lunch at the Holly Tree Club and the children and mums thoroughly enjoyed a fine lunch. The activity afterwards was led very ably by Mrs. Jean Ward. A group of about 20 children ranging from 6 months to 9 years sang together old songs and new and percussion instruments added to the fun.. Then everyone joined in enacting the story of Moses with a lot of hidden talent coming to the fore in "off the cuff" acting and speech. The whole afternoon, something of an experiment was pronounced a success.

Forthcoming events

Friday 7th March 2.30 p.m.: Women's world day of Prayer, Deddington Parish Church. Speaker - Dame Anne Stephens, Women throughout the world take part in the service on the same day. All demominations get together and all women are most welcome Each year a different church is responsible for preparing the form of service and hosting it.

Tuesday 25th March 7.30 p.m.: Quiet evening at Shenington. Please make sure you have let a committee member know whether or not you are coming to this event.

Maggie Rampley

The site of Deddington Castle extends over the whole of the playing fields known as Castle Grounds, its limits being marked by the massive earthen bank and external ditch. For much of its length this ditch has been filled in, but it can still be seen on the south and east sides of the Castle. Even in their present state of preservation these earthworks form a considerable barrier.

The original Castle was probably built by Odo, Bishop of Bayeux and Duke of Kent (he was half-brother to William the Conqueror), within a few years of the Norman Conquest. The Castle, in its earliest form, consisted of a large bailey or enclosure covering the entire area within the defensive banks, together with a motte (a defensive mound of earth), of which little remains today. The archaeological excavations have been confined to the small inner bailey at the east end of the Castle - consequently nothing is known of the outer bailey presently occupied by the football field.

The inner bailey represents the strengthening of the Castle by the construction of a smaller but more defensible section. Initially this was achieved by the construction of a simple earthen bank and ditch, dividing the Castle into two parts - this took place in the early years of the twelfth century. Subsequently these earthen defences were partly dismantled and replaced by a stone wall. Sections of this stone wall have been exposed by excavation. It is constructed of mortared local ironstone, is seven feet six inches in thickness and still stands (though now buried) to a height of seven feet in some parts, though for most of its length it has been totally demolished. This second re-fortification took place about the year 1150 when the Castle was owned by William de Chesney, who was an active supporter of King Stephen during the civil war between Stephen and Matilda.

At the end of the twelfth century a number of minor alterations and improvements were made to the defences, including the rebuilding of the Gatehouse and the addition of a wall tower, which was built on the remains of the old motte. During this period the Castle was in the hands of Guy de Dive. Guy had acquired the property through his wife Lucy de Chesney (the great-niece of William de Chesney). The Castle and its manor remained in the de Dive family until 1364 when Thomas de Dive sold the estate to the Wardon and Canons of the Chapel of St. George at Windsor, who then leased the land to the Appletree family. The Castle had been in a poor state of repair from the latter part of the thirteenth century and was eventually systematically demolished in the late fourteenth century; it is known for example that Bicestor Priory purchased stone from the site of the castle in 1377.

In addition to these defensive works the excavations revealed a number of stone buildings inside the Castle, although in most cases only the foundations have survived. Ranging in date from the late eleventh century to the fourteenth century these include:- a small chapel, a solar (the lord's private chamber), the Great Hall and a number of other domestic and agricultural buildings, these last mainly belonging to the thirteenth and fourteenth century occupation of the Castle.

A large number of small objects of medieval date were also recovered during the course of the excavations. By far the commonest were fragments of pottery, including some nearly complete vessels, much of which would have been made at the pottery in Brill (Buckinghamshire) about twelve miles away. Other finds included various building materials such as green glazed pottery roof tiles and stone roof slates similar to those still in use in the area today; and from the chapel came fragments of painted window glass. Another frequent find were the blocks of carefully shaped building stone, brought from the quarries at Taynton (near Burford) no more than twenty miles from Deddington. Taynton was one of the main sources of high quality building stone during the Middle Ages. At Deddington it was only used for the windows, doorways and corners of the more important buildings. Metal objects were found only rarely and then in a poor state of preservation, fragments of iron nails being the most common with very occasional finds of arrow heads and knife blades.

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Dear Editor,

I have read with considerable concern the reports of the Parish Council meetings of 19.12.79 and 23.1.80 in the February Deddington News and I have written to the Parish Council expressing that concern.

At the hastily called public meeting on 2nd October 1979 the PC, having presented us with precious few facts, were asked to provide comparative costs for the project on both sites and to arrange a further public meeting. If the reports of their recent meetings are correct it does not appear that this is being done.

At the public meeting the Chairman, after some pressurising suggested that the purchase price for the Windmill Site would be £10,000 or less and that it would cost £3,000 to renovate the buildings. It now appears that the price is £15,000 and does not include the land.

I am of the opinion that the cost of renovation and conversion will take an even more alarming jump especially when one considers the fact that the heating system is in the part which is being demolished.

Like Roger Rose who wrote in the October 1979 News, I was disappointed that so little information was available to the public meeting. Unlike him, however, I did not leave the meeting with the vague feeling that the Windmill Site was the better of the two. I was left with the distinct feeling that the PC would like me to believe the Windmill Site was to be preferred - all of the arguments in favour of the Windmill Site came from the Chairman. However, if I remember the meeting correctly, not one member of the public spoke in favour of the Windmill Site. The Football Club argued strongly in favour of Castle Grounds and made a generous offer to provide the access road. Another resident spoke of the injunction banning the use of amplified music in the existing Windmill Hall and there is no reason to suppose that a new hall on the same site would be treated differently. The CDC member spoke against the whole project on the grounds that we could not afford it, and with the proposed increases in the County and District rates he may have a point.

Another speaker, presumably a newcomer to the village, spoke of a possible "Do It Yourself" job on the Windmill site. However the recent non painting of the Town Hall is more than sufficient to convince most of us of this village's ability to organise and execute DIY projects.

I think we need a lot more information - the cost of building on each site including access roads and services, how much of that would be borne by the PC, what restrictions on use would apply at both sites and then a less hastily arranged public meeting or referendum at which we could make a well informed decision.

Don Kibbels, 21 The Daedings

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WANTED: Child's car seat. Please ring Deddington 38975.

Large quantities of animal bones were found - these were mostly food remains of cow, pig, sheep, duck, goose and even fish. There were however a number of more curious animal remains such as the skull of a black rat, a large part of the skeleton of a cat and quite a number of hawk bones, in several cases forming near complete skeletons. Several species of hawk were represented; the peregrine falcon, the kestrel, the kite, the buzzard and at least two types of harrier, all of which are rare or even extinct in modern day Oxfordshire.

The excavations at Deddington Castle, while revealing considerable information on the twelfth century and subsequent history of the Castle, have raised important questions as to the date and function of the original Castle. The great size of the enclosed area, the magnitude of the defences and its probable association with a man of the rank of Bishop Odo all lead to the supposition that the Castle, and perhaps the town as well, were places of much more than purely local importance. The answers to these questions must await further work, particularly on the unknown outer bailey, but there is however no liklihood of this being possible in the forseeable future.

The work already carried out has proved of considerable value in furthering the understanding of several archaeological and historical problems, not only about Deddington itself but also those of a more general nature. Particularly important is the study of the pottery which is revealing a detailed picture of the changing styles of pottery used throughout the medieval period. As these changes in pottery type are one of the most important ways in which archaeologists are able to date the remains which they uncover, Deddington Castle will be of great value in the dating of other medieval sites in North Oxfordshire.

R.J. Ivens

NATURE NOTES

One of the best nature reserves in Deddington has to be the churchyard.. There, in the unspoilt quietness of well over an acre of ground, is the perfect place for a great variety of animal and plant life. Grasses, mosses, lichens on the tombstones, fungi and wild flowers, trees and bushes abound. Animal life of all sorts, from several varieties of snails, centipedes under stones, insects and spiders to small mammals and many birds depend ultimately on the plant life flourishing there. Plant life must come before animal life can be established, and here in the churchyard - more or less undisturbed for centuries - ecological conditions are settled and each plant supports different kinds of animals, who in turn provide food for other carnivorous or predatory animals.

Through this mild February the aconites and snowdrops have been splendid amongst the graves. A little tree creeper has competed with the blackbird and song thrush, robin and dunnock for song. In the second week of February I saw a very early bee on some ivy leaved toadflax on a warm, sunny wall. In every month of the year I have found gnats swarming somewhere near the great lime trees at the far end of the old part of the churchyard. Their larvae live in the decaying leaves and are extremely hardy.

Thanks to Ted Johnson and others who help him this churchyard is kept for plant and beast and man to enjoy.

Pat Hannah

DEDDINGTON RANGER GUIDES

At the end of January we had an interesting tour of our local pottery. If there are any other craft people in the area willing to put up with our small group visiting them we would love to hear from them.

We have had a go at making vegetarian snacks. Not exactly nut cutlets but the food disappeared as soon as it was cooked (a good sign). On 22nd February, the movement's Thinking Day (joint birthdays of our founders), we visited Steeple Aston and Middle Barton Brownies at Middle Barton and joined in with their celebrations. The following day we visited Radio Oxford and then spent the afternoon in Oxford.

Our last meeting was spent swimming at Spiceball, and on Tuesday 11th March at 7.00 p.m. we will be going to the sauna in Banbury. We will be joining other groups from the movement in a Jumble Sale on 8th March at 2 p.m. in the Scout Hut. Please ring me on Deddington 38198 if you want jumble collected.

Jackie Stammers

DEDDINGTON SINGERS

"The Crucifixion", a musical act of worship by John Stainer with hymns for all to sing, will be performed on Thursday 20th March at 7.30 p.m. at The Wesleyan Reform Chapel, Deddington, and on Sunday 23rd March at 6.30 p.m. at Barford St. Michael Church. Everyone is welcome.

Betty Caporn

A WINTER MORNING

The sun, bright pink on castle grounds
With eerie light illumines mounds
Of bailey, moat and outer keep
Where page and scullion lie asleep
And far above in thinning fog
Goes man and early walking dog.

The trees, bare poles against the sky
With sad dejection limply fly
Yet dormant deep within them lay
The green unfettered buds of May.

And Summer new lies here.

Bill Drake

DEDDINGTON LADIES

On February 6th our speaker was Mr. Manning who gave us a talk on "The Rotary Club" in this country and abroad. Our speaker for March 5th will be Mrs. Hannah on "Fostering". Our speaker for Wednesday 2nd April will be Mrs. June Stilgoe talking about her nursing experience in Jamaica, and showing some slides. On Friday 7th March we are going on a coach trip to Heyford Base.

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at The Holly Tree Club at 8.00 p.m.

Daphne Harper

Deddington Primary School
PTA

MARCH EVENTS.

Craft Evening	School Hall	Tuesday 25th March 7.30 pm
Market Stall	Market Place	Saturday 29th Mar. 10.0 am

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Summer Fete	School Field	Saturday 14th June 2.30 pm
Barn Dance	Details to be announced	Saturday 5th July.

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CHURCH NEWS

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The ambulance, the fire engine, the police car go up and down the main road every day hell for leather. The parish church sleeps on. All the same, the church is a bit like an ambulance. It looks after us when we are in trouble and helps us to recover. Not the building, of course (or the ambulance itself), but the people who belong to it (The Church, with capital letters). The church even has bells to attract attention. The bells say "Look out! The world is a dangerous place. This is where you will find help".

The church is a bit like a fire engine. An old Welsh parson stood at the door of his church, ringing a bell and shouting "Fire!" The people came running up. "Where's the fire, Mr. Jones?". "In hell, if you don't come to church". Too simple a picture, too crude? All the same, there is a kingdom of hell, when your world falls about you, when you are frustrated beyond endurance, when you feel deeply that life is not worth living. Then you may be glad of the church as the fire engine that will at least dampen down the flames of your own hell.

The church is a bit like a police car. It lays down the law, and tries to stop us hurting one another. Of course it may be uncomfortable, when you are caught speeding or committing a public nuisance. But we cannot manage without it.

The church is certainly like a hearse. Not a very comforting thought - but undertakers are human, like anyone else. Do they depend on us? We certainly depend on them.

The church sleeps on. But not as much as you think - not a days goes by without prayers being said, without good deeds being done, without people in trouble being rescued. When you next hear the siren or the klaxon, think of the church. It stands up for us from the cradle to the grave.

Richard Hannah

HOLLY TREE CLUB

The pantomime this year was Mother Goose at the New Theatre, Oxford. John Inman played the part so well in his many lovely dresses, designed by himself. He strutted around the stage in high heeled shoes and I wondered why he did not lose his balance. Danny La Rue must look to his laurels when John is in drag.

Barbara Newman made a charming goose, and Peta and Paul Page were back with their puppets in an entirely new act which everyone enjoyed. This year binoculars had been provided at a small cost so we had close up views of the action.

On our way home we wanted to buy fish and chips, but the coach was unable to stop on the main road, so we had to do without our intended hot supper. Apart from that, all went well and we all felt merry and bright.

Florence Anderson

DEDDINGTON SCHOOL PTA

The Spring Term is now well under way and by the time your Deddington News reaches you we will have had our first event of the year. Our school has supported the National Children's Home School at Chipping Norton with gifts from the Harvest Festival. We thought it would be a good idea if we could learn a bit more about the special work that is done there so the Headmaster agreed to come and talk to us and show a film.

The fete sub-committee is now in full swing organising and planning to make this year's fete better than ever. We want to make the 'Tug of War' an annual event and the committee would like to present a trophy to the winning team, who would defend their title the following year. If anyone, or any firm would consider donating a trophy as a challenge cup for this purpose please contact any member of the committee or ring Mike Langstaff on 38145.

The Barn Dance has had to be rescheduled for July 5th and we will announce the venue later. Finally, please support The Craft Evening at the school on March 25th and The Market Stall on March 29th.

Mike Langstaff

SCOUT NEWS

It's been a busy time for the troop and our numbers are still increasing. We decided that it may be a good idea for a little stroll, so 14 boys, three leaders and a trusty dog set forth one Sunday morn to walk to the Giants Caves at Broughton to practice map and compass work. Everything went well until the Salt Way at Banbury. There we saw the effects of the rain - it was muddy and with the plaintive cries of "My foot's stuck" we pressed on. After hot soup at Giants Cave we tackled the walk home - tired but everyone had enjoyed it.

Four of our older scouts have completed their Patrol leader training course at Banbury and later received flashes - well done to Paul Wilkins, Gareth Byast, David Preedy and Warren Kermode.

The troop is again to be on the move in the near future, thanks to the Deddington Rifle Club who are moving out of the range at the Castle Grounds. They have given us the building and the Parish Council have let us have the lease of the ground. Thank you. The building requires a lot of work for us to use as a meeting place. Monty Spencer of Deddington Felt Roofing has given us a cheque for £75.00 to help pay for rewiring and painting, and his gift of a double gas burner and cylinder is also very welcome. Thank you very much.

The Scout and Guide Group will also be the proud owners of a mini bus which we've just bought thanks to the generosity of Mr. Stevens of The Daedings. This is his old camping van which we will convert to a passenger carrier. This we hope will be of great help in getting the boys and girls about. The bus will also be displaying adverts from the Kings Arms and Deddington Felt Roofing for their donations to help us run the bus. We would be grateful if any other firm etc. would be willing to 'Advertise' on our bus and they should contact any Scouter or Guider. Anything received will help us.

Alan Rampley

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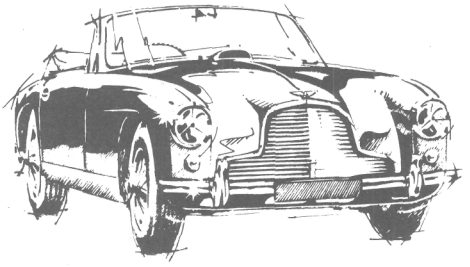

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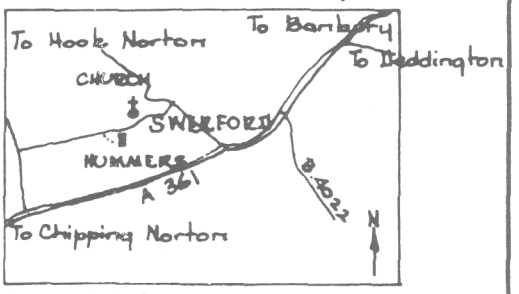

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Correspondence: From Cluttons, the solicitors for the Church Commissioners, reminding the PC that they had received no reply to their November letter. This referred to the lane running from Castle Street to Castle Grounds. They claimed that the lane had deteriorated and some difficulty had been found in using the lane when cars were parked there. It was agreed to ask for specific occasions when difficulty had arisen.

From OCC informing the PC that the cost of cutting the grass at Castle Grounds would have to be increased from £5.56 per cut to £13.17 per cut. At twelve cuts per year this would cost a total of £158.04 which the PC agreed to accept.

From Deddington Football Club complaining of a problem of moles at Castle Grounds. The Clerk had made some enquiries of the Playing Fields' Association, who gave the name of a mole catcher who used strychnine. It was agreed to ask the CDC Pest Controller to pay a visit to the Grounds, and if the service was free, to carry out the work; or if a charge is involved to give an estimate. (The Clerk had discovered alternative suggestions, including stamping on the ground, which vibration could kill the moles or frighten them away (Football Club please note) or driving a Flymo lawn-mower at full throttle round the Grounds, but it was decided that a more efficient method should be available!)

Repairs to Town Hall: Ken Garrett reported that under the lease for the Town Hall the PC is responsible for maintenance. Monty Spencer said his father would probably do the work which Council members gratefully accepted, as a sum of nearly £300 had been quoted for repairs to the pillars. The lease runs until 1986.

Defacement of grass south of Market Place: Norman Drake reported on the bad state of this grass and a letter had been received complaining of the same matter. The Clerk had kept a watch on the grass and reported that it was the Heyfordian buses running over the grass which caused the problem. It was agreed a letter should be written to the company requesting their drivers to take more care.

Traffic and Parking in Hudson Street: Norman Drake requested that Hudson Street be made one way from High Street ending at Powell's drive entrance. However other Council members felt double yellow lines round the corners outside Greenwood's garage and the Icecream Parlour, or alternatively the length of Hudson Street might be more appropriate. It was agreed that advice should be sought from the OCC Engineers' Department.

Street Lighting on A423: Letters had been received from Mr. Forsyth from New Street, and from the CC on this matter. Mary Robinson had presented to Councillors a report on street lighting in Burford, Woodstock and Amersham. The PC thanked her for producing a comprehensive report on this matter, and she said if any member of the public was interested, she would be happy for them to see it. However it was agreed no decision could be made until a scheme of definite proposals was received from the CC.

Windmill Site: Letters were received from Mr. Belsham of The Daedings, and Mr. Kibbels also from The Daedings, both expressing concern that the PC were going ahead with the purchase of a part of the Windmill site without further reference being made to people of the parish. Some PC members felt that enough information was already available via the Banbury Guardian and Deddington News. Monty Spencer criticised again inaccurate reporting in both publications. Jill Cheeseman pointed out that it is sometimes extremely difficult to report accurately what has been said at a council meeting, and proposed that a statement be made to inform the public of the current situation with regard to the Windmill site, and this was agreed. It was agreed to appoint Mr. Nick Gaunt of Messrs. Johnson and Gaunt, Solicitors, to act on behalf of the PC in the proposed purchase.

Jill Cheeseman

DEDDINGTON PLAYGROUP

Fund raising for the coming year can now commence with hopes for a happy and successful Playgroup year.

Unfortunately we have had to discontinue the afternoon sessions for at least this term. This is due to a decline in numbers of children on our waiting list at the present time and children awaiting admittance can come straight into the morning sessions. However, this situation can change overnight and should enough children wish to take advantage of an afternoon session then we shall be only too happy to recommence them. All monies received from the afternoon sessions go directly into a special "Playgroup Building Fund", a fund which has been set up to give us a good financial start for future building expenses.

Dates for your diary:-

Cake Stall, Produce etc.	This will be held in the Market Place on Saturday 5th April from 10.00 a.m.
Doorstep Course	A four or five weeks' series of talks by qualfied persons on all aspects of child development. Any organisation, playgroup or individual is invited to attend and it will cost nothing. More details next month. It is hoped this will start on 14th April for a maximum of five weeks.

Finally, our thanks once again to Alan and Margaret Gilbert and all customers of the Kings Arms for their generous gift to us of over £16. We do appreciate the collections you make for us and you can rest assured that the money will be put to very good use.

Rowena Maskery

BROWNIES

On February 19th American Brownies from Upper Heyford visited us to have a Thinking Day party. We entertained them with extracts from an ordinary Brownie meeting, a game, a song and some food, and they entertained us with songs and gave us a lovely card which they had made themselves. When they left they were each given a hand-made paper basket filled with sweets which our Brownies had made in a previous meeting a few weeks before. It was a lovely evening. The collecting pennies in a Smartie tube was successful and so far we have over £11 with three more tubes still to come in. The money will be sent off to the Thinking Day Fund in London and will be used to help members of the movement in other countries. A Smartie tube holds about 72p in case anybody wants to know!

Our waiting list: At the present time our Pack is full, and there is likely to be only one new place next term. I am sorry that there are so many girls over seven waiting to get into the Pack. I can only take recruits in the order in which their names are given to me, and those at the end of the list are likely to have a long wait - possibly until the beginning of next year. The only suggestion that I can make is that anybody who can get to Barford should join Barford Brownies where I know there are places. They meet on Fridays and the person to contact is Mrs. Wyatt, Deddington 38470. If a girl does join Barford Brownies and her name is on my list, I would be glad to know so that I can keep my waiting list up to date. Those who want to join our Brownies, and are not yet on the list, should give their names, addresses and ages on a piece of paper to either Carol Nicholls or me.

Vivien Pleydell-Bouverie

The following is correspondnce ensuing from an open letter signed by many New Street/ High Street residents and addressed to the Parish Council:

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL January 29th 1980

Proposed lighting of the A423

Dear Sir, In reply to your "open" letter and its signatures, I am instructed to say that the talks now going on between your Council and the County authorities on improving the lighting of the main road are purely exploratory in character.

What your Council have in mind is a type of lighting similar to that obtaining in Woodstock and Burford, providing the necessary illumination, without it clashing with its environment. To that end, the County have been asked to proffer a draft plan along those lines and a Council member, Mrs. Robinson, is conducting a comprehensive research into the subject, both of which Council will discuss at their next meeting on February 27th.

This meeting incidently any resident may attend to hear what is said, although they may not pass comment without the consent of the Council. I trust this allays some at least of your fears.

L.E. Foreman - Clerk to the Council

The Chairman, Deddington Parish Council. February 23rd 1980

Dear Chairman, Thank you for your letter of the 29 January.

Your assurance that the discussions with the County authorities are only exploratory in character does, indeed, allay some of our fears. New Street Residents were alarmed by the possible prospect of full main road lighting being arbitrarily imposed upon them when we all felt that a more environmentally suitable answer could be found. The 'Open Letter' seemed the most effective way of transmitting our concern.

I note your comments about attending meetings. I must confess that I, personally, had not realised that the public were allowed to attend all meetings. Nevertheless it is still one way communication because of the rule that the public cannot pass comment. Furthrmore there are several residents like myself who cannot attend mid-week evening meetings. The more elderly also find a cold winter evening in the Town Hall a little difficult!

In view of the very direct effect on us all of the eventual lighting scheme chosen we would still like to state our wish to have an opportunity of hearing the pros and cons of the alternatives - if any - at the one time and be able to state our preference. May I suggest that when the Council feels it has gathered all the facts that either a special meeting is arranged or that the public are given permission to comment on that specific item of the agenda at a normal monthly Parish Council meeting.

Lastly, I would like to comment on the report of the last meeting in the Deddington News. The fact that no residents were present bears no relation to our interest in the problem. Apart from our understanding that it was not open to discussion generally at this meeting we also did not feel that we should interfere with your detailed duties as elected Parish Councillors; we merely wish to be assured that when the Council has examined all options we will be consulted over the final decision.

Robert Forsyth, The Stile House, Deddington

Deddington

Playgroup

Market Stall
at the
Town Hall

Saturday April 5th — 10 am - 12 approx.

Cakes/Produce/Nearly New etc.

PARISH COUNCIL STATEMENT

Members of the public in Deddington may have seen reference in the local press to Planning Application by the Parish Council concerning the Windmill School site. The application is part of the essential procedure required to enable the Parish Council to reach any conclusion concerning this project and does not mean that the Council has reached any decision thereon.

L. Foreman
Clerk to the Parish Council

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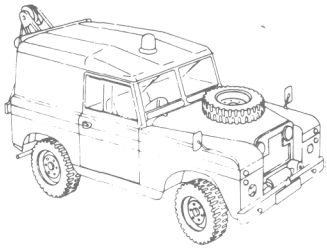

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DEDDINGTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Deddington 1st Team:- At this moment we are still top of the Premier Division, but with other teams having games in hand we must sit back and watch their results.

We have reached two Cup semi-finals - the Coronation Cup Semi that will be played in April at Banbury Stadium against Northend, and the Banbury Guardian Cup. We do not know our opponents in this Cup nor the date on which it will be played - more information next month.

Reserves:- Our Reserves seem to be gathering momentum as they come to the end of their season, with the prospect of seeing them in two if not three Cup Finals. They need one point from the remaining two games to go to the Final of the Mann Cup at Bicester Town Ground. We do not have any dates as yet but we will keep you informed and look forward to your support.

350 Club:- Our thanks for your support during the last year, and by now all members should have been asked if they would like to rejoin. If any person has not been asked and wishes to rejoin, please contact me on Deddington 38263 or 38927, as we hope to start this Club running again during the next two weeks. Please remember this is our means of support and enables us to fly the Deddington Football Club colours by fielding two teams - one in the Banbury League and one in the Jersey League.

Annual Dance:- Open your diaries or write on your calendar a provisional date for our Annual Dance on May 16th. More information next month.

Congratulations to Mick Spiers on joining myself as a Class Three Referee, and to "Smokey" and his wife, and "Regea" and his wife on their attempts to provide us with two more players.

Rodney Hayward, Chairman

ANYONE FOR CRICKET?

North Aston Cricket Club offers a welcome to any local cricketers interested in weekly (Sunday) fixtures in pleasant surroundings.

Those interested may 'phone Cliff Smith on Deddington 38647 for further details.

CLIFTON NEWS

Mr. Cliff Collin, who is a resident of Clifton and the Managing Director of Mirror Image Ltd. in the Bull Ring, Deddington left at the beginning of February for a ten day visit to Brazil, to attend an international Sales Conference organised by Apeco, a major manufacturer of office equipment.

His firm has been recognised as the leading distributor in England of Apeco's products. Besides Brazilia, he will see Sao Paulo and other places of interest in the country. He is to be congratulated on his success.

Frank Crofts

DEDDINGTON WI

We had our February meeting on the 12th at the Holly Tree Club. 32 members and three visitors were present. As usual the business meeting preceeded our talk and several members were able to give reports on meetings and outings they had attended. I wonder how many people know of the vast variety of activities the WI arranges for its members. This can vary from proper educational courses lasting a week at the WI's own college, to day-time or evening lectures, exhibitions, group and quarterly meetings, competitions and outings. If one had the time it would be possible to be out several times a week attending these things.

Our speaker for the evening was Tamara Malcolm from the Chipping Norton Theatre. She was an actress with the Royal Shakespeare Company for two years and she told us about her experiences during that time. It seems that no actor in this country feels complete until he or she has "done time" with the RSC, and we were enthralled by her account of what went on behind the scenes of big theatres both in London and New York.

Mrs. Malcolm was kind enough to judge our competition, which suitably enough had a Valentine's motif: we were asked to bring heart-shaped objects, and were able to admire Valentine cards, glass and china hearts, and even a very attractive looking heart shaped cake. The first prize went to Mrs. Ivings with Mrs. Perree and Mrs. Smith taking second and third prizes.

You will soon be able to see WI ladies tripping sylph-like to meetings - we have started another sponsored Slim-In, and have great hopes of it.

The next meeting will be on March 11th, when Mrs. Fonge will talk about plants in the home, and please don't forget our coffee morning/Jumble Sale at the Holly Tree Club on Saturday, March 22nd at 10.30 a.m.

Marianne Elsley

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor, Bill Drake's jingle illustrates the quandary brought about by the inconsistency that is man.

Every year we religiously and solemnly mourn the dead of two world-wide conflects, the flower of their generation who died in two wars to end all war, at the end of which we promised a land fit for returning heroes to live in.

Yet, hardly had the dust settled, so to speak, before we were at it again. All busy allying ourselves to one of two Super Powers with an inbuilt hostile antipathy to each other, occasioned by opposing political ide logies. A hostility which, augmented by their enormous stock-pile or frightful nuclear weapons, creates a potentially dangerous situation, especially when there are "hawks" on either side itching to get at that fatal button.

Such a situation leaves only one answer to the dilemma of asking, nay commanding, the youth of this generation to expend its adventurous spirit to shower utter devastation on a people they have never seen and do not know.

Keir Hardie, the once lone Labour member of Parliament, gave us that answer years ago - "Wars will cease when men refuse to fight and not before". A simple truth, brief in length, but how many decades must pass, how many "frights" must we endure, before the message finally gets through - if at all?

Lewis Foreman, 2 Market Place, Deddington

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